NEW ARTISTS WIN BIG AT GRAMMY AWARDS

LOOK INSIDE TO SEE WHO TOOK HOME THE MOST GOLD. PAGE 17

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OUT OF THEIR ELEMENT

Snowscape. The bears and big cats at the Philadelphia Zoo are loving the snow. **Keeping them warm.** All birds and turtles, plus some monkeys, stay in during freezing temperatures. PAGE 02

Mei Lin, a red panda, hangs out on snow-covered branches at the Philadelphia Zoo. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

If a math problem is tough, kick its butt!

PAGES 24-25

More to Brandon Boyd than Incubus

PAGE 18

A director journeys into 'The Past'

PAGES 20-21

Flyers 'don't deserve to be in the playoffs'

PAGE 29

1
NEWS
Top 3
What's trending at Metro.us?
1 'Watch: Here is a video of DMX crashing a wedding party bus'
2 'Chloe Kim: Why America's best snowboarder can't compete at Sochi Olympics'
3 'VIDEO: Boy with no arms, 10, plays trumpet at school'
Local tweet
"Time for Philly to upgrade the blue line, sit luke schenn, and bring up some of our young guys. #Flyers"
Austen Popiel, @austen91, has some advice for the struggling team.

No snow-day blues for animals at Philly Zoo

Shiver me timbers. While cold weather forced humans inside last week, big animals at the zoo were, frankly, having a blast.

Tajiri, a 3-year-old female lion, enjoys the sun and snow, while Changbai, a 6-year-old female Amur tiger, inset, lies down in the snow at the Philadelphia Zoo recently. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Heavy snowfall and freezing winds sent most Philadelphians indoors seeking out warm places to hide last week.

But what about those who live outdoors?

At the Philadelphia Zoo, adjusting to the dropping temperatures wasn't anything out of the ordinary for zookeepers and wildlife staff. It helps that some animals actually like to be out in the cold.

"The polar bears were given full access to the outside, and they probably thoroughly enjoyed it," said Kevin Murphy, general curator at the zoo.

"Some of our cold, hardy cats were definitely out there enjoying that weather. Snow leopards are from the Himalayan mountains — they're built for the ice and snow," he said.

While these large animals enjoyed the weather, other, more vulnerable critters were kept safely inside.

Overall, "very few of our species had full access to the outdoors," Murphy said.

Whenever there's a question of whether larger animals can handle the cold, Murphy said his staff let the animals decide for themselves.

"Whenever there's a doubt and the animal is capable of making a choice, we give the animal the choice of going out in the situation," Murphy said.

That's part of the Philadelphia Zoo's philosophy.

"We try to make choice part of an animal's environment," Murphy said.

One of the species that can generally take the cold well is the zoo's variety of bears.

"Polar bears, sloth bears, Asiatic black bears and the Andean bears would be given choice on certain days — they can choose to go in or out," Murphy said.

Birds, reptiles and smaller mammals stay indoors in heated environments. But the creatures at the zoo who had the hardest time adjusting to the cold were humans, Murphy said.

Staff were responsible for digging paths through some of the snow-filled exhibits to give animals paths to travel and to bring them food.

"It's challenging on staff to work in the weather," he said. "They're navigating the zoo on foot, going out in habitats and being outside."

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Must avoid the cold

While big critters love to play in the snow, others need to be more careful:

- Zebras can handle limited doses of cold.
- Galapagos turtles don't understand that cold will kill them. So they are brought inside.
- Flamingos and all bird species need to be kept indoors and heated.
- Tamarin monkeys and other small mammals don't have the body fat to endure the cold.

Quoted

"Extreme cold or heat are challenging, but it's not outside the majority of what we do every day. It's all about managing the animals' environment."
Murphy

Fourth. Pa. ranks high in black homicide victimization rate

Pennsylvania ranks fourth in the nation in the rate of black homicide victimization, according to a Violence Policy Center analysis.

Its rate is 29.92 per 100,000, which is more than one and a half times the national black homicide victimization rate. And, it's more than six times the overall homicide victimization rate nationwide.

According to the data, for Pennsylvania homicides where a weapon used was identified, 85 percent of black homicide victims were shot and killed with guns. Nationwide, that number was at 82 percent. METRO

Drug trafficking

Police: Mafioso had 65 pounds of pot

Carlo Taccetta, believed to be a soldier in the Lucchese crime family, was arrested Saturday for allegedly having 65 pounds of pot in his truck.

Taccetta was arrested by state police after a traffic stop in Montville, Morris County, N.J. METRO

Explosives

PSU student charged with possessing WMD

Police arrested Vladislav Miftakhov, 19, a Russian national, on Friday and charged him with possession of a weapon of mass destruction for allegedly having a homemade bomb and the equipment to make more, reports say.

Police allegedly found one bomb and bomb-making materials in a suitcase. Miftakhov also faces charges for marijuana possession with intent to sell. METRO

Vladislav Miftakhov / APD

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Homicide

Man killed in Strawberry Mansion

Police said a 23-year-old man was killed early Sunday. The victim was shot in the back, head and left leg around 1:47 a.m. near Ridge Avenue and 29th Street. No arrests have been made. METRO

Artsy

Philly schools to get $60K

The Picasso Project, a Public Citizens for Children and Youth mini-grant program, is awarding more than $60,000 to 14 local schools.

Schools include: Bache-Martin Elementary, Bodine HS, William Cramp Elementary, Stephen Girard Elementary, Andrew Jackson Elementary, Fitler Academics Plus, Alexander McClure Elementary, Thomas Mifflin Elementary, George Nebinger Elementary, Samuel Powel Elementary, James Rhoads Elementary, Allen Stearne Elementary, Swenson Arts and Technology HS and Vare-Washington Elementary. METRO

Swenson Arts and Technology High School / PROVIDED

Sentencing. Serial rapist faces 57 to 114 years behind bars

Serial rapist William Walker, who had pleaded guilty to four counts of rape in 2012, is slated to be sentenced today, according to the district attorney's office, and could face up to 114 years in prison.

Walker was caught by police in the summer of 2012 while he was assaulting a female victim. On July 14, 2012, Walker met with his first victim — a mentally disabled woman residing in an assisted living facility — police said. He held the woman down with a pillow over her face and beat, choked and raped her. He was later identified through DNA.

His second victim was just two blocks away from the first, also living at an assisted living facility for mentally disabled people. He pulled this woman into a wooded area, beat her and raped her. DNA evidence in this case too linked him to the rape.

The next day, Walker found a mentally disabled woman smoking a cigarette on the street. He dragged her into a wooded area, beat her and raped her too, police said. The woman returned to the facility where she was living with blood on her face and wearing no pants.

Walker's spree ended one week later when a good Samaritan saw him dragging another woman down the street and called 911. Police found the suspect leaning over the woman as he pulled up his pants. METRO

Walker's charges

He pleaded guilty to four counts of rape, one count of aggravated assault, two counts of simple assault and one count of terroristic threats.

- He was found to be a Sexually Violent Predator under the state's Megan's Law.
- Walker faces a total possible sentence of 57 to 114 years in prison.

Nepalis celebrate

Volunteers serve home-cooked vegetarian food at a Nepali cultural celebration on Sunday hosted by Mural Arts at its Southeast by Southeast location, a refinished storefront in South Philadelphia designed to serve as a cultural center for Philadelphia's growing Nepali, Bhutanese and Burmese populations. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

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It appears the hardworking folks over at City Council have too much time on their hands.

Councilman Bill Green is using the Clear Indoor Air Worker Protection Law as cover for what appears to be a witch hunt against e-cigarettes. There is a major flaw here.

E-cigarettes do not produce toxic fumes like tobacco cigarettes when exhaled, which is the entire basis for the law. A majority of what is produced from e-cigarettes is water vapor. Someone ought to find the councilman a chemist.

Let's get to the real reason Green wants to ban e-cigarette use in public places. "An important outcome of this legislation is the affirmation of a tobacco-free lifestyle, since the use of e-cigs in public places erodes decades of critical work focused on decreasing tobacco consumption." Green said. "Smoking is definitely not something we want to be 'cool' again."

So, let me see if I get this straight. Politicians over-taxed cigarettes upward of 50 percent more than their retail price in an attempt to make people quit smoking. Only they found out instead that smokers started using e-cigarettes because they are cheaper and somewhat healthier. Now they want to ban e-cigarettes use in public too?

But wait, Green isn't done yet! "We've seen an alarming increase in the number of children who are using e-cigarettes, and one in five kids certainly aren't using e-cigs to quit smoking because they've never smoked before."

The old "saving the children" argument is perhaps one of the most hackneyed, cliché, political moves there is. This e-cig ban is just the latest example of the petty thrill politicians get from attempting to control other people's lives.

Full disclosure: I have tried e-cigarettes once and did not like it at all. I do, however, smoke the good, old-fashioned tobacco kind.

Quoted

Boy, would I like to see the look on city council members' faces if 50 or so protesters lit up their e-cigs right before they ban it.

These people are braver than you

More than 100 people endured freezing temperatures and falling snow to jump into the ice-cold Delaware River to raise money for the Special Olympics during the sixth annual Polar Plunge at Neshaminy State Park in Bensalem on Saturday. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

GETTING RID OF YOUR OLD MATTRESS OR BOX SPRING?

City of Philadelphia New Mattress Collection Guidelines:

As of 12/1/13, mattresses and box springs collected at the curb or accepted at City Sanitation Centers must be bagged and sealed in mattress disposal bags to prevent the spread of bed bugs. Bags are availableat many retail stores or online.

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David J. Perri, P.E., Acting Commissioner

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State of the Union

Obama to use speech to offer election-year agenda for Democrats

President Barack Obama may not say it in his State of the Union speech this week, but part of his underlying message will be: Please vote for Democrats in the November elections.

Obama's big speech on Tuesday will be his sixth foray into the House of Representatives chamber to lay out his policy priorities for the year.

This year's address is critical to forming a narrative on which Democrats can campaign this year. And Obama wants to bolster his standing after a rocky end-of-the-year controversy over the botched rollout of his signature health care law, and the tumult surrounding a government shutdown.

Obama has seized on income inequality in America as the main theme of his State of the Union speech, which went through its usual draft process over the weekend.

He will promote his demand that Congress raise the minimum wage and call for steps to increase jobs at the lower rungs of the economic ladder at a time when the stock market is soaring, but overall job growth is tepid.

The White House sees raising incomes as a key to building up the middle class and getting more Americans out of poverty and into better lives. REUTERS

PRESIDENT OBAMA
GETTY IMAGES

Gunman identified in Maryland mall shooting

Shots fired. The mall was crowded with weekend shoppers; many took shelter after hearing shots.

The attack in Columbia followed a shooting at a New Jersey mall in November in which a gunman fired at least six shots without hitting anyone. / GETTY IMAGES

The gunman who shot and killed two people at a Maryland mall was a 19-year-old man who lived with his mother in the city of College Park and arrived at the shopping center in a taxi about an hour before opening fire, police said on Sunday.

But a day after Saturday's shootings, police could provide no immediate insight into why Darion Marcus Aguilar killed a young man and a young woman at the mall in Columbia, Md., about 20 miles west of Baltimore, before apparently killing himself.

Shots

6-8

Aguilar fired six to eight shots from a 12-gauge shotgun, killing Brianna Benlolo, 21, of College Park, and Tyler Johnson, 25, of Mount Airy, Md., police said.

Police have yet to find any ties between Aguilar and the two people he killed, employees at a skate shop at the mall, Howard County Police Chief Bill McMahon told a Sunday morning news conference.

"We do know that one of our victims also lived in College Park," McMahon said. "We don't know if there's any connection there or whether that's merely coincidental."

Aguilar fired six to eight shots from a 12-gauge shotgun, killing Brianna Benlolo, 21, of College Park, and Tyler Johnson, 25, of Mount Airy, Md., police said.

Both were employees of Zumiez, the skate shop where the shooting took place. A third person on a lower floor of the mall suffered a gunshot wound to the foot, and four more people were hurt in the ensuing chaos. REUTERS

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Retailer. Michaels warns of possible payment card breach

Michaels Companies Inc., the biggest U.S. arts and crafts retailer, said it is investigating a possible security breach on its payment card network and advised customers to check their financial statements for fraudulent activity.

If confirmed, it would mark the second known data breach since 2011 at Michaels, which is preparing to sell shares in an initial public offering.

"We are concerned there may have been a data security attack on Michaels that may have affected our customers' payment card information," Michaels Chief Executive Chuck Rubin said in a statement on Saturday. "We are taking aggressive action to determine the nature and scope of the issue."

The warning comes in the wake of a massive data breach at Target Corp. over the holiday shopping season, and suggests that hackers may be attacking U.S. retailers in a spree the extent of which is yet to be fully understood. REUTERS

Michaels arts and crafts stores / GETTY IMAGES

Incidents

20

The U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation last week warned retailers to expect more attacks and said the agency has reviewed 20 incidents over the past year that were similar to the recent breaches.

Snowden: NSA engages in industrial espionage

Greed. Edward Snowden says the U.S. will take any intelligence regardless of value to national security.

The U.S. National Security Agency is involved in industrial espionage and will grab any intelligence it can get its hands on regardless of its value to national security, former NSA contractor Edward Snowden told a German TV network.

In text released ahead of a lengthy interview that aired on Sunday, ARD TV quoted Snowden saying the NSA does not limit its espionage to issues of national security and he cited German engineering firm Siemens as one target.

"If there's information at Siemens that's beneficial to national interests — even if it doesn't have anything to do with national security — then they'll take that information nevertheless," Snowden said, according to ARD, which recorded the interview in Russia where he has claimed asylum.

Snowden also told the German public broadcasting network he no longer has possession of any documents on NSA activities and has turned everything he had over to select journalists. REUTERS

Targets

100K

Snowden's claim the NSA is engaged in industrial espionage follows a New York Times report earlier this month that the NSA put software in almost 100,000 computers around the world, allowing it to carry out surveillance on those devices and could provide a digital highway for cyberattacks.

Demonstrators protest against government surveillance. / GETTY IMAGES

Legal Conditions

Snowden won't return without amnesty

Edward Snowden would be willing to enter talks with U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder to negotiate his return to the United States but not without a guarantee of amnesty, his legal adviser said on Sunday.

Jesselyn Radack said she was glad Holder indicated last week he would talk to lawyers for the former U.S. spy agency contractor to negotiate his return from Moscow, but that Snowden would need better protection.

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Sanaa Cantie
North Philadelphia | 22

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Candid. Italy's Berlusconi opts for wrinkles in new image

Former premier Silvio Berlusconi, famed for his face lifts and hair implants, has opted for a sharp image change in reaction to the rise of younger rival Matteo Renzi, agreeing to be shown wrinkled and without makeup by a U.K. newspaper on Sunday.

The Sunday Times carried a portrait of 77-year-old center-right leader titled "Silvio Berlusconi after the fall," by photographer Paul Stuart, on the front page of its color supplement.

Major Italian newspapers reproduced the Sunday Times cover.

"Il Cavaliere proud of his age," said Il Giornale, a paper owned by Berlusconi's family, using the widely used nickname for the media billionaire who was decorated with the title "Cavaliere del Lavoro" for his services to industry in 1977.

"He has taken off the mask because masks are not needed any more. Because now the enemy is not the same and the same makeup is not needed," it said.

Other Italian newspapers minutely dissected the portrait and concluded that the rise of Renzi, the 39-year-old mayor of Florence who has shaken up Italian politics since winning the leadership of the center-left Democratic Party, had persuaded Berlusconi to make a virtue of his own age. REUTERS

Quoted

"Renzi isn't just young, he's younger than I am. I'm older and more true and I'm not afraid of showing myself like this."

The newspaper quoted Berlusconi

GETTY IMAGES

New clashes rocking the Ukraine

Police clashed with protesters in central Kiev on Sunday, and the fate of Ukraine's government was uncertain after embattled President Viktor Yanukovich offered important posts to opposition leaders, including the role of prime minister. One of the president's main foes described his offer as a "poisoned" attempt to divide the opposition and kill off mass protests. The demonstrations erupted late last year when Yanukovich ditched landmark agreements with the European Union and opted instead for closer ties with Russia. Emboldened opposition leaders said they would press for more concessions, including early elections, setting the stage for a tough political battle when parliament meets for a special session on Tuesday. REUTERS

French president

Hollande announces separation from Trierweiler

French President Francois Hollande announced his separation from first lady Valerie Trierweiler on Saturday following a media storm over allegations he is having an affair with an actress.

"I wish to make it known that I have ended my partnership with Valerie Trierweiler," he told Agence France Presse news agency.

Hollande sought to put an end to turbulence that began two weeks ago when celebrity magazine Closer published a report that he was having an affair with film actress and Socialist Party supporter Julie Gayet.

A news conference to unveil the economic plans was overshadowed by questions over Hollande's private life. REUTERS

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Marlise Munoz

Hospital ends life support for brain-dead pregnant woman

A Texas hospital removed a brain-dead pregnant woman from life support on Sunday in line with a court order, ending a battle with her husband who argued the fetus she had been forced to carry was withering inside her lifeless body, the family's lawyers said.

Marlise Munoz, who was about 22 weeks pregnant, had been on life support in the hospital in Fort Worth since Nov. 26. Her husband, Erick Munoz, had sought to remove her from life support.

A judge on Friday sided with the family in finding that Marlise Munoz was already legally dead, ordering the hospital to remove her ventilator. REUTERS

Lawsuits

Google, Samsung announce global patent agreement

Google Inc. and Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd., which are frequently involved in patent infringement lawsuits but not against each other, announced on Sunday that they have reached a global patent cross-licensing agreement.

The deal covers patents currently owned by the companies, as well as any filed in the next 10 years, the companies said in a release. Financial terms were not disclosed.

The companies said the deal "would lead to deeper collaboration on research and development of current and future projects." REUTERS

War on women? US Republican Rand Paul says women are winning

See more at www.metro.us

Rand called Democratic criticism that Republicans are waging a "war on women" a charade that does not lead to good policy. / GETTY IMAGES

A way out. Paul turned the tables on the issue pointing out how the women in his family are doing.

U.S. Sen. Rand Paul on Sunday offered a way out of criticism that the Republican Party is waging a war on women: The women are ahead.

"You know, the whole thing of the war on women. I sort of laughingly say, 'yes, there might have been, but the women are winning it,'" Paul, a possible contender for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination, said on CNN's "State of the Union."

Paul was asked to comment on remarks that former presidential candidate Mike Huckabee made to the Republican National Committee last week, in which he urged Republicans to argue that women are not "weaklings" who rely on government for help, including contraceptives to "control their libido." REUTERS

Quoted

"I think women are doing very well and I'm proud of how well we've come and how far we've come, and I think that some of the victimology and all this other stuff is trumped up." Paul

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Computers can monitor a student's progress in real time for the teacher. / EYECANDY IMAGES

A Philadelphia Catholic school is the first school on the East Coast to employ a totally new type of learning — one that engages the student and teacher in more one-on-one time and also plays to the strengths and weaknesses of students.

It's called the Phaedrus Initiative, and Seton Education Partners are teaching this type of blended learning to urban Catholic schools. Some schools on the West Coast have already implemented this learning technique in their classrooms and DePaul Catholic School in North Philadelphia just started this year in grades kindergarten through second.

"Blending learning is utilizing cutting-edge technology and small-group instruction to educate kids as well as possible," said Betsy Rafferty, Seton site manager for DePaul's launch. "The students use technology in learning rotations, so when they are on the computer, they are working on hand-selected material to fill in their individual weaknesses or deepen their strengths. The other students are working one-on-one or in small groups."

Rafferty said on the West Coast — in public schools as well as strong charter organizations that are using blended learning — it's increasing students' academic results. It's even increasing class size — which is usually counter-intuitive — but with this model, it works. And it's more financially viable. "It's really remarkable," Rafferty said.

DePaul's model is a three-year rollout. After this year, the technique will expand to third through fifth grade. Then, in two years, it will be available for sixth, seventh and eighth grade. Rafferty is on hand at the school to not only teach professional development but to guide the students, teachers and even parents along the way.

Some may fear that what's known as traditional classroom instruction has gone by the wayside. But that's not the case. Under the Phaedrus Initiative, teachers make the decision on what is the best way to learn the material.

"You can see very different types of teaching and learning," Rafferty said. "There's full-class instruction, small groups and certain points of the day where the teacher will always do reading rotations."

Rafferty said Seton Education Partners is looking to expand in the Philadelphia and Los Angeles areas in the next year.

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Catholic Education: Rethought, Renewed, Realized

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Changing the face of Catholic education

Independence. There's another choice for Catholic learning in the Philadelphia area.

There's an alternative out there for parents who want their children to receive a Catholic education — but in a differently structured way. As of last summer, Independence Mission Schools took over the operation of 14 Philadelphia Catholic schools independent of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

"The idea was to bring a different structure to the schools — to focus a little more on entrepreneurship, academic standards and leadership," said Aldo Cavalli, president of ISM.

Because of the new system of schools, Cavalli said officials there have the ability to aim their teaching toward what they'd like to focus on with their students.

"We see this new model as a new approach to Catholic education and as an alternative in these underserved neighborhoods," he added.

Many of the schools that are now part of ISM were slated to close. The idea was to keep them open, Cavalli said, and reduce the costs the families provide. And another idea was to open them to a wider range of children. About 67 percent of the children at ISM schools are not Catholic, Cavalli said. "The best way to describe it is the schools are sanctuaries. They offer the families a quality, safe education."

The very first school to open under this new model was St. Martin de Porres in North Philadelphia in 2010. "The pilot school was so successful, the group that was on the board of that school wanted to expand."

Other schools part of ISM include St. Frances Cabrini in West Philadelphia, St. Thomas Aquinas in Point Breeze and St. Cyril of Alexandria in East Landsdowne. Mary Mother of Peace in Southwest Philadelphia is slated to be the next part of Independence Mission Schools.

What makes this designation for schools unique is that this is the first time this has occurred — a group of Catholic school independent from the Archdiocese.

"We, of course, are being watched by many to see if this works — not only as an initiative, but it may be the future of Catholic education," Cavalli said.

Cavalli, who previously was the chief executive officer of the Lehigh Valley Regional Academy Charter School, said there was an adjustment period for the schools, but it's been running very smoothly with support from the Archdiocese. That's been a question many have asked of ISM as they are trying to find more information about the process.

"Most of the inquiries are about the nature of the agreement with the Archdiocese," Cavalli said. "We should be very mindful that Archbishop Chaput is pushing it forward. It's unique."

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Students at St. Thomas Aquinas School are eager. / ISM FACEBOOK.

A popular choice

Enrollment is rising at ISM schools.

- Despite declining enrollment for the last several years, enrollment has increased nearly 8 percent since Independence Mission Schools took over in July, officials said.
- More scholarships are available since much of the revenue taken in from donor, foundation and other contributors is used for the students.

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Catholic Schools Week. The yearly dedication kicked off today in schools around Philly

Students at St. Bernadette get hands-on experience.
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This week Catholic schools are marking a very special year. It's the 40th year of Catholic Schools Week, a yearly occurrence in which Catholic schools in Philadelphia and around the country celebrate their faith and education.

This year's theme is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." This theme will last more than a year, according to the National Catholic Education Association. Members asked that the Catholic Schools Week logo and theme be used for at least three years. The theme shows that schools are communities — small families in their own right, according to the group.

"Faith, knowledge and service are three measures by which any Catholic school can and should be judged," according to the site. CHRISTINA PACIOLLA

On the schedule

Here are some events happening this week:

- **Monday, 7 p.m. Father Judge High School for Boys, Philadelphia**
  The Rev. Joseph Campellone will dedicate the school's new Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Center.
- **Tuesday, 9 a.m. Nativity of Our Lord School, Warminster**
  The school will celebrate its "We Are a Community of Service Day" and create gifts for a donation to the Ronald McDonald House on Chestnut Street.
- **Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. St. Bernadette of Lourdes School, Drexel Hill**
  The school will host a "Sandwiches for Special Friends" service activity in which students will make lunches of sandwiches, fruit and dessert for donations to the Life Center in Upper Darby, which serves the homeless.
- **Thursday, 7 p.m. Holy Trinity School, Morrisville**
  The school will hold a showcase with a band, drum line, singers and songwriters, robotics and an eighth-grade "living museum."
- **Friday, 9:45 a.m. St. Aloysius School, Pottstown**
  All students from pre-kindergarten to eighth grade will do a school families project to design a crest that represented all members of the group. The activity is meant to foster a deeper sense of community within the school.

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2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

Today, Chloe Grace Moretz is threatening a career change, Lena Dunham had a pretty wild weekend, Jim Carrey wants you to get more out of life and Wanda Sykes is under the weather.

@ChloeGMoretz: having a feeling once i learn this guitar I'm gonna start to put my poetry to song..

@lenadunham: Reading Archie comics in bed like the grownup woman I am.

@JimCarrey: Feel it all!

@iamwandasykes: I can tell how sick I am by the tv shows I watch. Two Lifetime movies... It must be the flu.

GETTY IMAGES

Dog hugs, not drugs

Zac Efron, who completed a stint in rehab last year for problems with cocaine and alcohol, is back on the junket circuit, this time looking happy, healthy and game for chihuahua kisses. Here he is on the set of Univision's "Despierta America" to promote his new movie "That Awkward Moment" on Friday in Miami, Fla.

Bieber's housekeeper talks 'drugs' and 'hangers-on'

Let's all take the following with a great, big grain of salt as you know that any housekeeper of Justin Bieber's is going to sign an iron-clad confidentiality agreement before she or he even steps into his hormone-ravaged mansion(s). But perhaps Tatiana Voziouk, who claims to be Bieber's former housekeeper, is either being paid so much to gab to Britain's Sunday People that it's worth it or she is just very, very worried about her former boss and wants him to get help, non-disclosure be damned. (That, or she is just an entirely made-up person by the tabloid to help keep the clicks coming, which is the theory I'd put my money on.)

Anyway, queue the force-fed quotes! "I'm terrified he'll become the next Michael Jackson. If he doesn't act now, I will hear one day that he has passed away. It is heartbreaking," Voziouk said. "The drugs and hangers-on are turning Justin into a zombie." Voziouk, who began working for Bieber in 2012 and was recently let go, says she witnessed plenty of prescription drugs, marijuana and other substances on the premises.

"I was always picking up joint butts and stubs from the kitchen, lounge and pool area where they had been thrown," she says, adding that she'd voiced concerns about Bieber's decline to his mother and manager, but to no avail. "Justin was once a sweatheart — kind, considerate and a talented boy, and now I am concerned for him," she says. "He is now a lost boy."

Justin Bieber fans show their support at his hotel in Miami on Friday. Bieber left the U.S. on Saturday to hit up Punta Chame, a beach town on the Gulf of Panama, with his new gal pal Chantel Jeffries. / RADCLIFFE, BAUER-GRIFFIN, GC IMAGES

Cuaron's Oscar basically assured

The Directors Guild of America bestowed Alfonso Cuaron top honors for his film "Gravity" on Saturday night. Cuaron has already picked up a Golden Globe for the film and is, of course, nominated for a Best Director Oscar.

So here is where we ask the requisite, "So what does this mean for Cuaron's Oscar chances?" Well, if it weren't already obvious that he was going to win — beating out the closest he has to a rival, "12 Years a Slave" helmsman Steve McQueen — this seals it.

Only seven times in its 65 year history has the winner of the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Feature Film not gone on to win the Oscar equivalent. Moreover, only 13 times has the DGA winner's film not won Best Picture.

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‘We wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for Paul and Ringo’

Grammy Awards. The Academy of Arts and Sciences continues to award inter-generational collaboration.

While the people behind the Grammys have increasingly focused attention on bridging generation gaps with their programming — pairing old and young performers together on live musical collaborations — the awards presented at the beginning of the 56th Annual Grammy Awards also followed this formula.

Daft Punk, **Pharrell Williams** and **Nile Rodgers** won the Best Pop Duo/Group Performance Grammy for “Get Lucky,” a victory which makes perfect sense for the Academy of Arts and Sciences, since it already pairs veterans with new blood.

This theme was clearest when **Dave Grohl**, **Paul McCartney**, **Krist Novoselic** and **Pat Smear** won the award for Best Rock Song.

“I have to say that we wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for **Paul** and for **Ringo**,” said Grohl.

Representing the young blood, **Macklemore** and **Ryan Lewis** were the first to step up to the podium to claim an award during the televised ceremony (they had already won three before the cameras were rolling).

“We made this album without a record label,” said Macklemore, beaming with a big smile as he accepted the Grammy for Best New Artist.

Performances

Silhouetted against pink lights and a field of mist, **Beyonce** kicked off the show, looking like she just got out of the shower to perform a duet with **Jay Z** on “Drunk in Love.”

Pharrell Williams, Daft Punk and Nile Rodgers reached across the generation gap.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Katy Perry may have been the fairest of them all with her performance of “Dark Horse,” looking like the evil queen from “Snow White” as she began inside a giant snow globe.

Lorde performed a sultry version of “Royals,” commanding the mic as she sang to backing tracks of her own voice, but dancing like a student of the Elaine Benes School of Dance.

As is often the case, some of the inter-generational pairings just seemed too forced. Sure **Gary Clarke Jr.** can rip on the guitar, but that doesn’t mean he should be trading licks with **Keith Urban**. And why was **Robin Thicke** performing with **Chicago**?

PAT HEALY
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A glam affair

The 2014 Grammy red carpet was all about shimmer.

1 **Taylor Swift** said her slinky gold lame Gucci Premiere gown, with crystal gemstones, felt like “a suit of armor.” Hear that haters/exes?

2 **Rita Ora** ditched the typical gown for a metallic Lanvin cocktail dress she described as “short, kinda cute and glitzy.” We agree.

3 Don’t let **Madonna**’s black Ralph Lauren suit — picked out by her son, **David** — fool you. She brought the shimmer (and an interesting accent) with her grill.

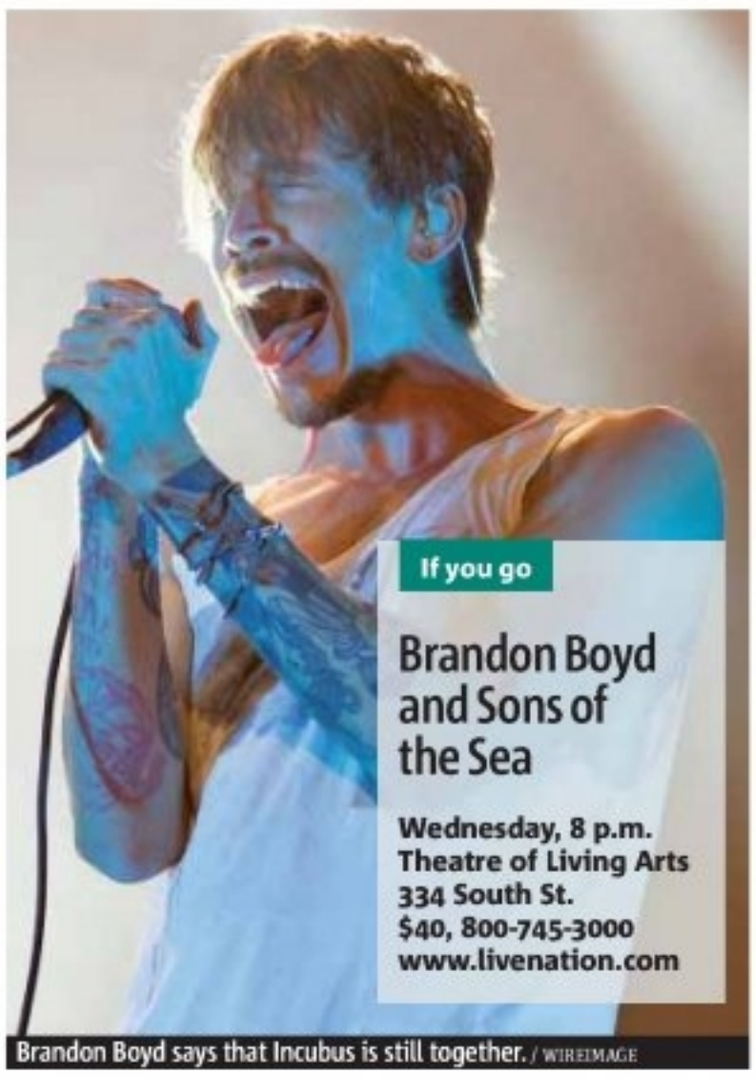
4 **Chrissy Teigen** got the memo. The model stole the attention from hubby John Legend in her sexy strapless Johanna Johnson gown.

5 Watch out Olivia Wilde — mom-to-be **Ciara** looked radiant — and showed off her baby bump— in a custom gold beaded Emilio Pucci gown.

6 **Katy Perry** went really literal with a ladylike 2014 Valentino gown — fresh off the couture runway — featuring sheet music on the skirt. But that pageant hair, we just can’t get behind.

TINA CHADHA

Adopting Sons of the Sea



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Brandon Boyd says that Incubus is still together. / WIREIMAGE

A new "Echo." The Incubus frontman has a new band and a new book, but still gets nervous when he puts something new into the world.

Brandon Boyd's artistic range extends beyond Incubus, the band that made him famous, with hits like "Drive" and "Wish You Were Here." He's written three books — his most recent work, "So the Echo," released in September, consists of ink drawings, watercolors, collages, photos and writings from the past four years.

His latest non-Incubus venture is Sons of the Sea — a pop-leaning project with echoes of the Beach Boys. Even though he's a certified rock star, Sons of the Sea marks Boyd's second foray into putting out a debut album. He says he released a four-song EP last summer because of the music industry's changing nature. "I needed to put a foot in the pool before I jumped all the way in," he says. "It would be foolish to put all your eggs in one basket."

And it's not just album formats that have changed since Incubus hit the scene: Promotional techniques are a whole new ballgame in the age of social media. When the band were getting started, Boyd says he "would draw flyers, make Kinkos copies, go home and lick stamps" to get the word out about upcoming shows. But despite its capricious landscape, Boyd says one thing hasn't changed about the industry: the nerves that come with releasing a new project.

"Whether they're with the band that I grew up with, or this new project, or whether it's the book, there's always this feeling of vulnerability," he says. "It's this thing where you're about to show your hand to the world. 'Fingers crossed, I hope everybody likes it! Here I go!' It's that kind of thing."

Having been in the industry for nearly 20 years, Boyd's seen many reviews of his work — good and bad. But he's learned how to not let the negative ones slow him down. "I've had to develop a little more of a resilience, I guess you could say. Truth be told, it's a good education, just to be able to filter. Just because someone has something unpleasant to say about what you're doing, doesn't necessarily mean that what you're doing is bad or wrong. It just means that they didn't see what you were seeing or hear what you were hearing at that moment."

Stretching out

The end of Incubus?

Despite Boyd's solo projects, he assures us that there's no end on the horizon for the group that started his trajectory to success.

"Incubus is still very much a band," he tells us. "We've been a band a really long time. I think in order to remain a healthy family and a healthy artistic project, we need to stretch out. Everyone needs to spread their wings individually, and I think it will only positively inform our process as a band when we come back."

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TV watch list

COMEDY

'How I Met Your Mother'

To be honest, we're a little surprised this show has continued to chug along, long after having actually met The Mother. Probably because: Neil Patrick Harris. Tonight, to commemorate the show's 200th episode (right?), The Mother takes a look back at what the hell she's been up to the last eight years. **8 P.M., CBS**

Tonight, The Mother looks back at all the stuff she did before Ted. / RON P. JAFFE, FOX

EDUCATIONAL

'Duck Quacks Don't Echo'

They don't? This is a show co-hosted by Michael Ian Black in which Black and friends attempt to prove the title statement, among other weird factoids. Tonight, they try to glue a man to the ceiling (not sure what they're trying to prove/refute there) and find out if the color red actually pisses off a bull. **10 P.M., NGC**

MUSIC

'VH1 Super Bowl Blitz'

This has nothing at all to do with football. VH1 presents a week of live music preceding the big game, kicking off tonight with a performance by rapper J. Cole in Queens. **11 P.M., VH1**

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Extreme measures

On Iranian censors

"Censorship makes it difficult for you, but when you're in your own culture it is easier. I don't mean I've gotten used to censorship — I'm talking about finding the way to resist censorship, and finding a style in doing so. When someone has grown up in a situation of censorship and limitations, they have adapted to it, and when they go to a country without censorship, they cannot really change overnight."

The (slight) upside

"[Censorship] does make things really difficult, but it does make you more creative. If it happens one's whole lifetime, it could drive you crazy, but for a short period of time it can make you creative. My style was formed in Iran and when I came out of Iran I kept that form and style."

From Paris, with love

See more at www.metro.us

Bonus question

Will he return to Iran?

"I've left myself open to this, and I want the stories to tell me where and when to make films. I might have a story tomorrow that I have to make in Iran, and I'll definitely go to Iran to make that. If that story takes me to Argentina, I'll do that."

Iranian filmmaker Asghar Farhadi, who made the hit drama "A Separation," is back with "The Past." / GETTY IMAGES

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Interview. Asghar Farhadi went to France to make his follow-up to "A Separation."

Two years ago, the intense Iranian drama "A Separation" became a major hit, grossing more than $20 million worldwide and winning several dozen awards, among them both the Golden Globe and Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film. Now, its filmmaker, Asghar Farhadi, returns with "The Past." The similarly feted drama takes him to France to tell of another family tragedy, this time starring Berenice Bejo.

On the connections between 'The Past' and 'A Separation'

"They're like siblings. I didn't want them to be siblings, but when I look at them now they really are. The difference is in 'A Separation,' everything happens in the present time and the characters are responsible for their present decisions. But [The Past] is about something that has happened in the past, and years later the characters are paying the consequences."

On choosing another country for the setting

"When I started writing the story I thought of France. There are a few reasons for that. One is I've had many trips to France in the last few years. I don't feel like a stranger there, perhaps because many French people have seen my films. Also, the rhythms of life in Paris and in Tehran are close. I don't mean the life itself, but the rhythms."

MATT PRIGGE
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Box office. Kevin Hart and Ice Cube bury Mary Shelley's monster

Ice Cub and Kevin Hart react to "Ride Along"'s success. / UNIVERSAL PICTURES

"Ride Along," a buddy cop comedy starring Kevin Hart and Ice Cube, raced to the top of the weekend box office charts for the second week in a row, collecting $21.2 million in ticket sales.

The Afghanistan war tale "Lone Survivor" took the No. 2 spot with ticket sales of $12.6 million. Mark Wahlberg plays the role of the only one of four U.S. SEALs to return from a vicious fire fight with Taliban fighters.

The animated film "The Nut Job," featuring the voices of Will Arnett and Katherine Heigl, was third with $12.3 million in sales at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to studio figures provided by Rentrak.

"I, Frankenstein," an action film in which Victor Frankenstein's creation is reimagined as a hero battling gargoyles, was the only major new release. It opened in sixth place with ticket sales of $8.3 million.

"Ride Along" received mostly negative reviews, with only 17 percent positive write-ups, according to aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes. But the movie opened far stronger than expected a week ago, with ticket sales of $41.2 million to easily surpass Hollywood projections. The film has collected sales of just over $75 million since its Jan. 17 release.

Universal Pictures, the studio behind both "Ride Along" and "Lone Survivor," said the films' one-two punch marked the first time a single studio's films have grabbed the top two spots for two consecutive weeks in nearly two decades. Warner Bros. last achieved the feat in February 1994, with "On Deadly Ground" and "Ace Ventura."

"I, Frankenstein," which fell short of industry forecasts of an opening weekend between $10 million and $15 million, received generally poor reviews, but 57 percent of the audience said they liked it, according to Rotten Tomatoes.

Based on actor Kevin Grevioux's graphic novel, it takes place in a dark, dystopian world. Actor Aaron Eckhart plays the title role, with not much resemblance to the monster in earlier films based on Mary Shelley's 1818 novel. Less gruesome, he is blessed with extraordinary speed and endurance.

Disney's long-running animated hit "Frozen" claimed the No. 4 spot with $9 million. The musical is nearing $350 million in domestic sales in its 10th week in release.

"Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit," starring Chris Pine as the late author Tom Clancy's fictional CIA analyst, rounded out the top five with ticket sales of $8.8 million.

The strongest finisher among major Oscar-nominated films was "American Hustle," which took seventh place, selling $7.1 million worth of tickets for a total domestic haul of $127 million. REUTERS

The numbers

1. 'Ride Along' $21.2 million
2. 'Lone Survivor' $12.6 million
3. 'The Nut Job' $12.3 million
4. 'Frozen' $9 million
5. 'Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit' $8.8 million

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DIP INTO 1950S LIVERPOOL WITH 'THE LONG DAY CLOSES'

Leigh McCormack watches you watching his movie, "The Long Day Closes." / THE CRITERION COLLECTION

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Using pop songs in movies is a practice often performed cynically: What better way to give your scene or montage some unearned oomph than by tacking on a famous tune? One who uses source music with genuine invention is Terence Davies, the delightfully curmudgeonly British stylist.

In 1992's "The Long Day Closes," music is used to recall a bygone era that survives only in minds, sounds and images. A memory piece about Davies' youth in 1950s Liverpool, this film is a series of stray recollections chosen almost at random, like songs from a jukebox.

And it's tough to escape, even after the film itself closes.

DISC JOCKEY
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Now streaming

'A Hijacking'

Netflix Instant

"Captain Phillips" may have looked like an American version of "A Hijacking," a Danish nautical thriller that opened here early last year. In fact, the two are fundamentally different, if both about corporate penny-pinching that endangers the lives of seabound workers. Here, pirates hold their captives for many, increasingly smelly months.

Roland Moller and Pilou Asbaek play hostages in the Danish drama "A Hijacking." MAGNOLIA PICTURES

Also out

'Machete Kills'

The Razzies nominated Lady Gaga for her performance in this jokey sequel. She's in it for about three minutes.

'Kiss of the Damned'

While her brother Nick made "The Notebook," Xan Cassavetes (daughter of John) made this delightfully nutty homage to Eurotrash horrors of the '60s and '70s.

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HARMLESS FUN OR A GAMBLING PROBLEM?

Every football season my husband disappears on Sunday and Monday evenings. I know he and his friends bet on fantasy football and playoff games. But last week I noticed $4,000 was missing from our joint account. With Super Bowl Sunday coming up, I'm worried. Does he have a gambling problem?

The fact is, if you think your loved one's gambling is a problem, it is. / FUSE

I know as much about sports gambling as I do about root canals. So to thoughtfully answer your question, I turned to Jim Maney, executive director of the New York Council on Problem Gambling. His response: "If you think it's an issue, it's an issue."

According to the Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, the virtual bible of the mental health profession, a person can be diagnosed with a gambling disorder if he or she meets at least five of these criteria over a 10-month period:

1 Feels a need to gamble with increasing amounts of money in order to achieve the desired excitement.

2 Experiences restlessness or irritability when attempting to cut down or stop gambling.

3 Has made repeated unsuccessful efforts to control, cut back or stop gambling.

4 Is preoccupied with gambling (e.g., having persistent thoughts of reliving past gambling experiences, handicapping or planning the next venture, thinking of ways to get money with which to gamble).

5 Often gambles when feeling distressed (e.g., helpless, guilty, anxious, depressed).

6 After losing money gambling, often returns another day to get even ("chasing" one's losses).

7 Lies to conceal the extent of involvement with gambling.

8 Has jeopardized or lost a significant relationship, job or educational or career opportunity because of gambling.

9 Has relied on others to provide money to relieve desperate financial situations caused by gambling.

Unlike drinking, however, disordered gambling may not be immediately obvious to loved ones. Many consider their boyfriend's, girlfriend's or spouse's betting as enjoyable pastimes. Many gamblers are nonplussed when they don't have enough money for groceries because they assume that it's par for the course and they'll eventually make up for their losses.

According to Maney, it's not until the consequences become extreme — for example, their bank accounts get depleted, or they lose their houses — that compulsive gamblers and their families realize the extent of the problem.

If you think your husband has a problem, you can call the New York Council on Public Gambling, Gamblers Anonymous, or Gam-Anon, which provides support to families of compulsive gamblers. Good luck.

This column is not intended to be a substitute for a private consultation with a mental health professional, nor is this therapist liable for any actions taken as a result of this column. If you have concerns related to this column, make an appointment with a licensed mental health professional. Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author.

No Insurance Necessary

KIM SCHNEIDERMAN, MSW, LCSW

NOVEL-PERSPECTIVE.COM

Kim Schneiderman's book "Step Out of Your Story: Writing Exercises to Reframe and Transform Your Life," is due to be published next spring. Email Kim your questions at askkim@metro.us.

PLUS

No big deal?

The dangers of Super Bowl Sunday

As for football, Super Bowl Sunday is to pathological gamblers what New Year's Eve is to alcoholics: It's exciting and everybody's doing it so it's easier to brush off big betting as no big deal. In addition to gambling on the winning team (odds are 50/50) or the final score, people wager on whom wins the coin toss or even whether it will snow. With literally hundreds of different opportunities to cash in or win money that was previously lost, temptation for disordered gamblers is especially high.

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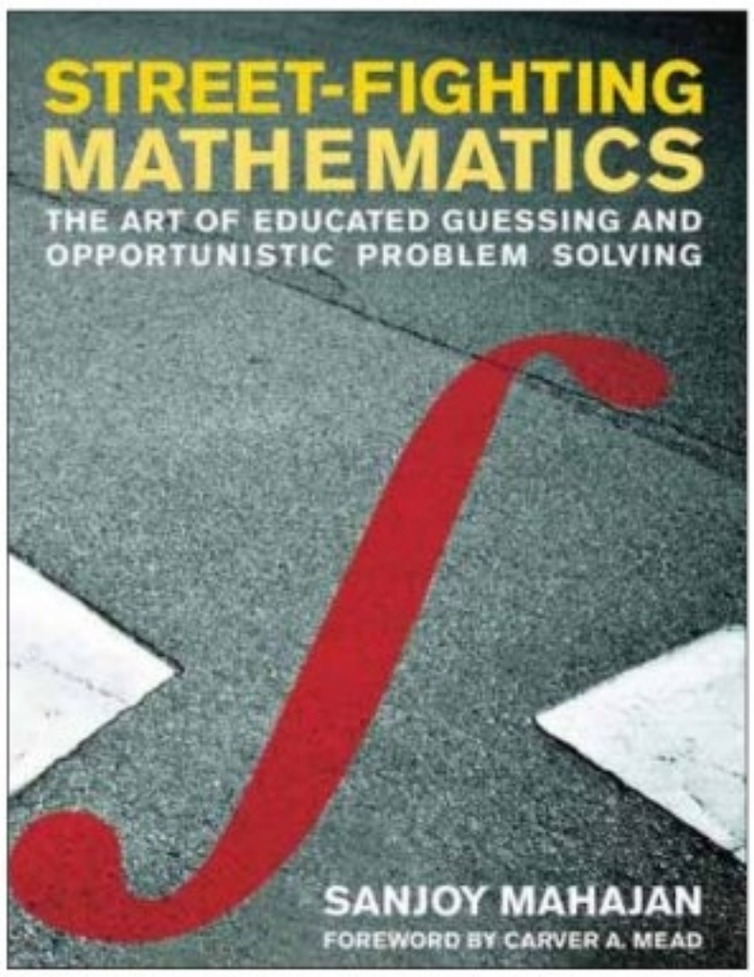
Street-fighting skills in math class

Ka-pow. A professor seeks to free his students from their fear of math.


STREET-FIGHTING MATHEMATICS
THE ART OF EDUCATED GUESSING AND OPPORTUNISTIC PROBLEM SOLVING
SANJOY MAHAJAN
FOREWORD BY CARVER A. MEAD

Street fighting and self-defense require quick thinking and an ability to "shoot first, and ask questions later." These ninja skills also apply to students in Dr. Sanjoy Mahajan's class based on his book, "Street-Fighting Mathematics."

For his class, available to MIT and Massive Open Online Courses students with basic physics and algebra comprehension, Mahajan says he doesn't want his students to "wait for the perfect kick to come" — he encourages them to just go for it.

The lessons seek to rid students of math anxieties by emphasizing the art of problem-solving without doing an exact, lengthy calculation. "They think, 'If I don't get this one right answer, I have nothing,'" he says. The answer itself isn't the end-all, be-all though. That's because in his class, a grade is not based on correct or incorrect answers; instead, it's all about whether they've made a decent effort of getting to the answer.

By showing students an equation as they stare at various symbols in fear, he tells them not to worry, since the answer will be found differently from how they expect it to be anyhow. "The paranoia will freeze them up and just like in a street fight, they'll get slaughtered." In order to become liberated, he focuses on action in doing something reasonable and reacting without overthinking a solution — in other words, estimating.

The class challenges the idea that math is supposed to be exact, as students toss away the notion of perfection and right and wrong. To drive home the ninja math technique, he often uses Navier-Stokes equations, considered some of the most complex math equations out there. He says it literally takes years to solve these problems, but "to hell with that, that's not a street-fighting approach." With a long, arduous approach, he says problems will not be solved and suggests the street-fighting approach as a way to make progress.

Students inevitably apply the ninja method to other classes as well, Mahajan points out. Approximating helps them simplify, he explains, "When the going gets tough, lower your standards."

Mahajan used the technique to learn German for example. The language has endings with seven different forms of the word "the." Instead of figuring out the proper word endings, the professor went with the most common one. "I was willing to approximate and not get 'paralysis by analysis,'" he says. Coupled with approximating by slurring the ends of words, locals understood Mahajan based on what their ear was trained to hear. Street fighting works in German too.

A street-fighting example

When you drop two paper cones with different sizes but the same shape, which one falls faster?

- **Solution:** The cones fall at the same speed in the air; the only difference between the two is size. The drag on the way down is proportional to the area of the object.

— To see a video of the problem and watch Mahajan's TED talk, visit Metro.us. To register for the course, visit www.ted.com/tedx.

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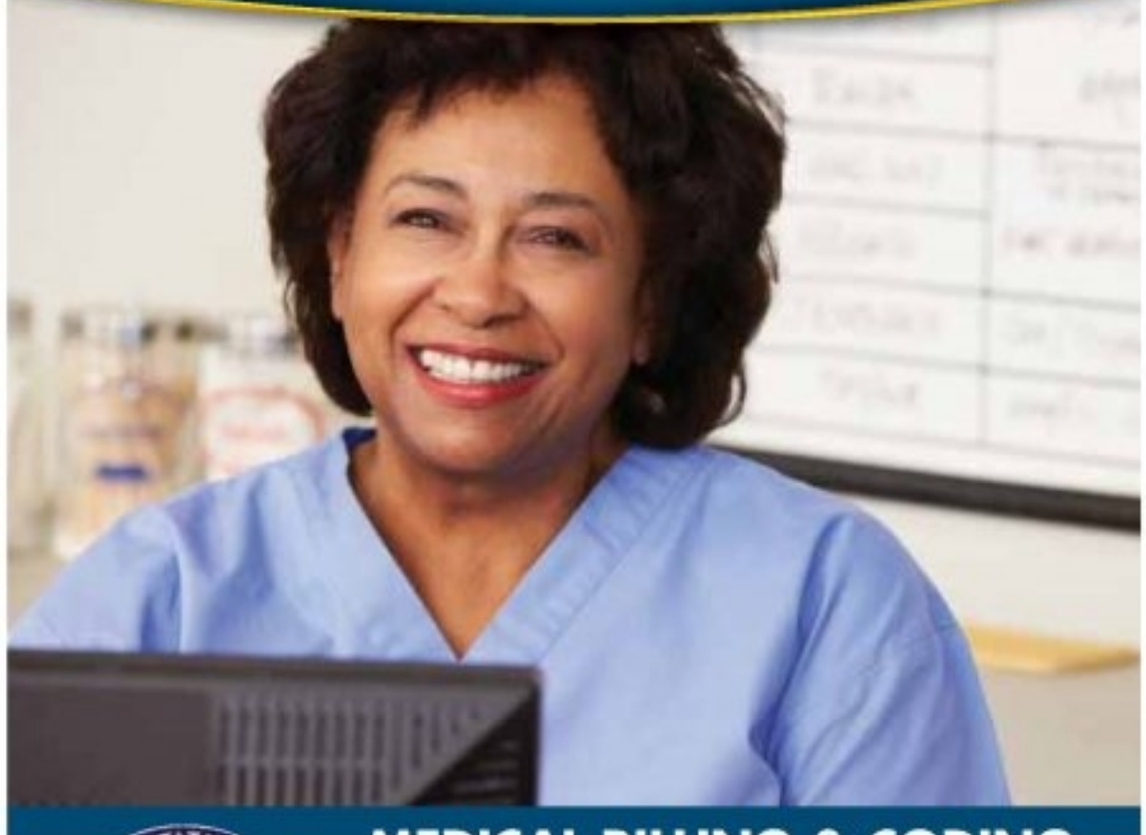

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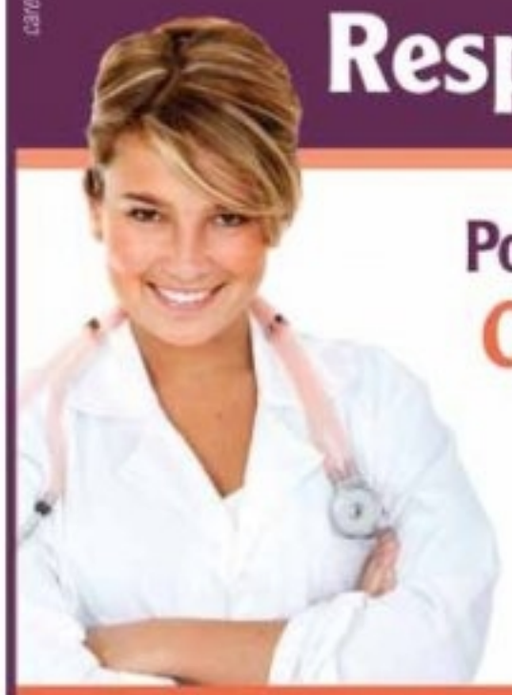

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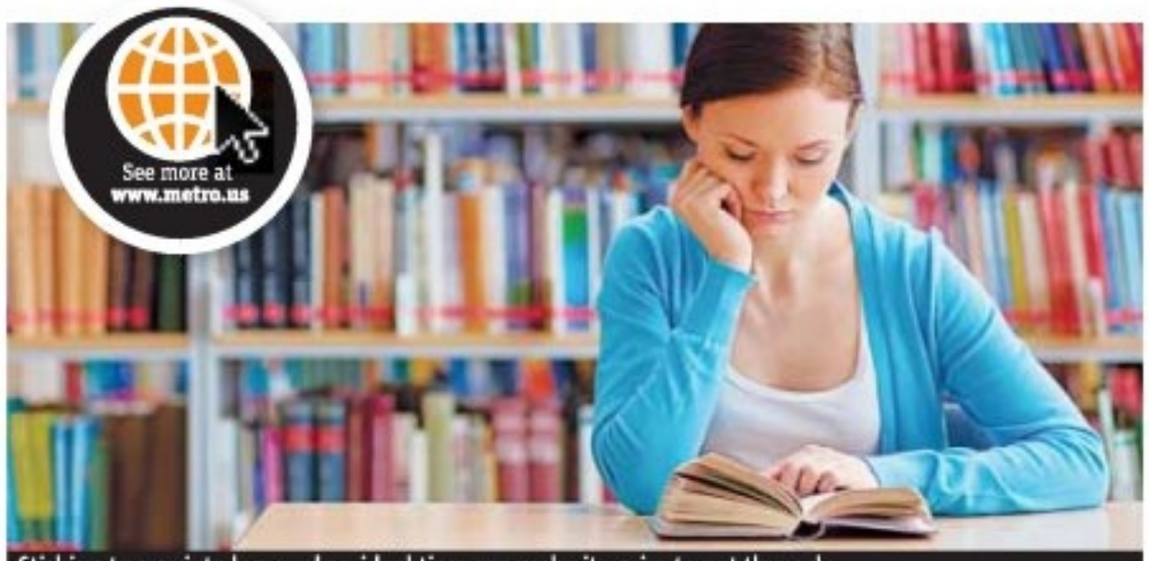

Sticking to a quiet place and an ideal time can make it easier to get through that slog of complex sentences. / COLOURBOX

Active reading tips:

- **Power down.** When you sit down to read, put your phone and laptop away so the screens don't suck you in.
- **Take notes.** Research has shown that the act of writing things down on paper helps the brain remember and retain facts. (Think of it as retro cool.)

At the beginning of the semester, I always ask my students how they do their reading. Do they find themselves reading and re-reading the same sentence or paragraph over and over again, realizing at the end of it that they haven't retained anything? Then, I ask them where and when they do their reading: before bed at night, in front of the TV or computer, in the common area of the residence hall or student center? These things matter when it comes to good reading habits.

If the way you're reading isn't working, then you need to change it up so that the readings "stick." Getting up earlier and heading to the library or another quiet place rather than waiting until you're tired and run-down from the day can help. Minimize the distractions by hiding your phone and reading in a place with no screens around to distract you.

The second thing I ask my students is why they think their professors assign them readings in the first place. It isn't surprising that students find the readings professors assign difficult — they go in with the expectation to be entertained, rather than intellectually challenged.

So, I tell my students, change your expectations and find a way to engage your brain. Take notes, write questions in the margins, create outlines of your readings, keep a glossary, whatever it takes to get your brain engaged in the process. Finally, read, re-read and then read it again. Each time you read, you'll find something new, learn something different, and retain more and more of what you need to know. You'll make new connections and gain new insight.

And if you're worried it takes too much time? Most of your classes end in a final of some sort, and that final is based on the readings you have done. Whether you spend the time reading throughout the semester or cramming in a sleepless energy-drink-fueled session is up to you. But I know from experience which one is better for your education (not to mention health) in the long run.

Ask a professor

LEE SKALLERUP BESSETTE
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Dr. Lee Skallerup Bessette is an English and writing instructor who has been teaching at colleges for almost 15 years, in three different states, two countries and two languages. She has seen it all and heard it all. You can follow her on Twitter, @readywriting, and check out her blog, College Ready Writing, where she talks about the broader issues and challenges facing higher education today.

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GETTING TIME ON YOUR SIDE

Buckling down and focusing your job search will improve your results and leave more time for the rest of life. / MOODBOARD RF

Working out at the gym with only 20 minutes on the clock means pounding that Stairmaster like there's no tomorrow. Well, compare that to a 60-minute slow walk on the treadmill — there's no comparison. (And really, there's no workout.)

How you spend your time is more important than how much you have. This couldn't be truer with a job search. Instead of surfing endlessly for various opportunities and applying online, it's time to get in the zone. Get focused, limit your time and micromanage it to boost your productivity. For starters, you can eliminate applying to jobs on Saturdays and do it on Mondays instead. (And how much fun is it to look for a job during the weekend? Our thoughts exactly.)

According to Bright.com, the best day of the week to apply online is Monday. After analyzing more than 500,000 job applications, the job seeker site found that at least 30 percent of job seekers moved onto the next round on a Monday. (The least successful day was Saturday).

Early in the week bodes well for emails as well. According to email marketing firm Constant Contact, Monday is emerging as a day with better-than-average open rates. Email volume is at its peak from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., so in order to avoid getting lost in the inbox, the best time to send is early in the morning or in the evening, especially if you're networking.

In addition to knowing when to apply and network via email, a focused search involves knowing which jobs and companies to pursue and how many is too many. Job seekers may think casting a wide net may bode well, but in many instances it's futile.

When recruiters review candidates' profiles in their company's applicant tracking system (better known as the "black hole" where online résumés are submitted), they can see all of the jobs you've applied to at that company. If they see 28, for example, they won't take you as seriously — you'll seem desperate and unfocused. How can anyone truly be a slam dunk hire for 28 different roles? Try applying to a few jobs so they'll see your specialized skill set and hone in on your CV.

Plus, following up is key to scoring the job, and how can you focus your efforts on 28 opportunities simultaneously? Narrow it down to the top two or three you're truly qualified for instead. It becomes unwieldy to sell yourself in an application binge. Instead, focus on the good stuff — the right jobs and the right companies.

Inside HR

VICKI SALEMI

Vicki Salemi is a career and human resources expert and consultant with 16-plus years of hands-on management experience. She's a public speaker, coach, the author of "Big Career in the Big City" and on-air host of "Score That Job."

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Horoscope

Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. Discuss all the possibilities with someone trustworthy before you sign any binding contracts.

Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Plan to deal with bureaucracy today. Settle issues efficiently and be cognizant of the need to maintain your reputation.

Aries | March 21-April 20. You need to reboot by going on an adventure. Traveling to an inspiring destination may give you mental clarity. Attend to your budget, and you will find a way.

Taurus | April 21-May 21. You can make worthwhile financial advancements, but be sure not to use your personal funds.

Gemini | May 22-June 20. Your mate may be inclined to hassle you today. Extreme sensitivity will lead to a wounded ego. Don't allow things to spin out of control.

Cancer | June 21-July 22. Combine work with pleasure. Socialize with colleagues and clients. Changes in a relationship will be welcome. Take a leap with commitment.

Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Take time for self-improvement. Make physical and mental adjustments to raise your self-esteem.

Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Don't overreact with loved ones. Family members may be needy and take advantage. This will leave you feeling depressed.

Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. You can forge meaningful friendships today. Attend social functions, and romantic opportunities will arise. Travel and social gatherings will increase your popularity.

Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. You will be duped if you invest in joint financial ventures. Be discerning as to the people you do business with.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Avoiding emotional conflict will not improve matters. Tell the truth and learn just where you stand.

Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. You may have a secret nemesis. Be careful what you reveal to others. Be precise in your communication, or you will be misunderstood.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

			3					
		1			6		3	
3	8	4	2			1		
7				8	3		5	6
6								3
8	3		6	1				2
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	6		4			2		
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6					1		3	
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1	7	6						5
	5	4		6		9	1	
9						7	6	2
			1		3		8	
8			6	5				
	2		4					3

How to play Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

Bigger they are, bigger the fallacy

So! Chris Christie has been caught in two scandals, Justin Bieber has been arrested on a DUI and the public is delighted! These are examples of what transactional analysts call the "zero sum fallacy," or the notion that the common people benefit from any setback suffered by those who are more fortunate. THOMAS ROBERTSON, VIA EMAIL

Lunches meat their match

I would love my school to participate in Meatless Monday. I love my school, but I hate its lunch options. They are greasy and unhealthy, and I don't feel good about eating them. It would be such a great change to have one day a week where we have new and different foods. I try to eat healthy at home, and having more nutritious school lunches would make a healthy lifestyle much easier to uphold. I care about my future and the future of my peers, and by bringing Meatless Monday into more schools, we could be a part of the progression toward a sustainable future. CASSIDY KLEMENT, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Online

You can use your smartphone to discover today's crossword answers — right now! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle — it's that easy!

Interactive Crossword

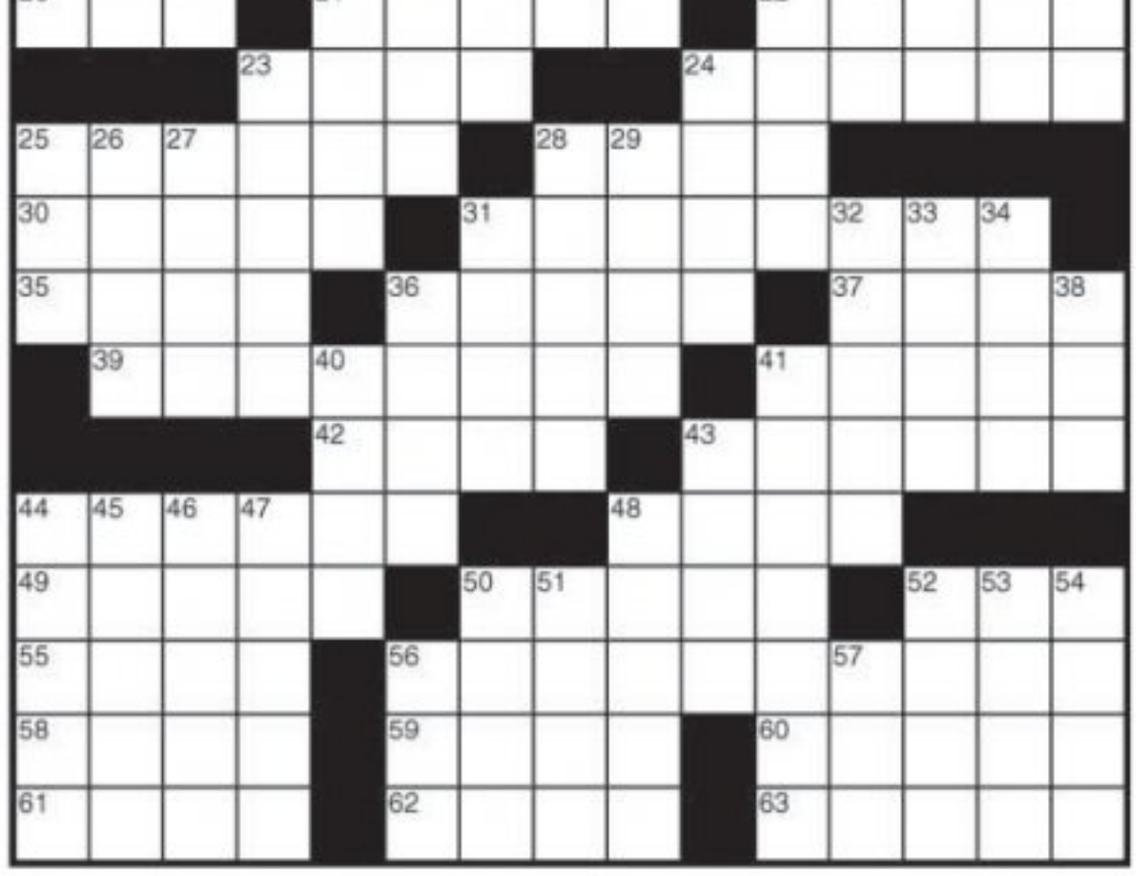
Crossword

Across

1 Brown-tinted photo
6 Ski lift (hyph.)
10 — -a-brac
14 Squirrel snack
15 Newsman — Abel
16 Per capita
17 Gardener's plus (2 wds.)
19 Pierre's girl
20 It may be tidy
21 Software buyers
22 Grease jobs
23 Walk in the woods
24 Glare protectors
25 Parking attendants
28 Lumpy fruit
30 Tiber locale
31 Some canines
35 Muddy the waters
36 Lifts a barbell
37 Zen riddle
39 Sullies
41 Move crabwise
42 Figurine mineral
43 Mean
44 Limp
48 Sharp pain
49 Down the road
50 Groovy
52 CPR pro
55 Tatters
56 Tropical wildcat
58 Q.E.D. part
59 Libra's stone
60 Came to be
61 Rider's handhold
62 "Hooray for me!" (hyph.)
63 Fixed a seam

Down

1 Droops
2 Pantyhose shade
3 Jingle or limerick
4 Pique
5 Portfolio item
6 Giggle (hyph.)
7 Fog up
8 Objectives
9 Johnny —
10 Swains
11 Macho sort
12 Colder
13 Board game from India
18 Reproving clucks
22 Trevi Fountain coins
23 Parrot's word
24 Wine casks
25 Caesar's man
26 Standing on
27 Fox's abode
28 Glassware brand
29 Blondie's shrieks
31 Counting-out start
32 Making do
33 Hubbub (hyph.)
34 "Freeze!"
36 Christie's Miss Marple
38 Born as
40 Finish the laundry
41 Mexicali matrons
43 PC fodder
44 Seraglio
45 Rhett's Scarlett —
46 Fell to
47 Moisten in the oven
48 Zahn or Abdul
50 Bay Area valley
51 Victorian oath
52 Sufficient, in verse
53 Consumer gds.
54 Laced up
56 Make a note
57 Suffix for "forfeit"



Weekend's answer

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Lackluster play puts Flyers at crossroads

NHL. Everything continues to go wrong for the Flyers in three straight blowout defeats.

The Flyers may have hit a new low point this season with their 6-1 loss to the Bruins Saturday. / GETTY IMAGES

The contrast couldn't have been more vivid.

While several of the franchise's best from its glory days watched in horror from a luxury suite, the team on ice representing the current Flyers was performing at its absolute worst.

A cynic might wonder if those men who once beat Bobby Orr, Phil Esposito and the Bruins and hoisted the Stanley Cup might fare better than their modern counterparts even now?

It wasn't just the way the Flyers systematically broke down in all phases of the game in Saturday's 6-1 humiliation by the Bruins that Claude Giroux called "the most embarrassing game I've ever been involved with."

Why stick around to watch a team that can't consistently clear the puck out of its end, commits foolish penalties — leading to three power-play goals — and is now getting shaky goaltending from previously reliable Steve Mason and Ray Emery? Each has allowed at least three goals the last nine games.

Having now dropped three straight by a combined 14-5 to tumble down to ninth — and out of a playoff spot — with six games remaining before the Olympic break, the players know their season is again at a crossroads.

"If that loss doesn't open eyes and isn't a wake-up call for us, you're not supposed to be on this team," said a disgusted Kimmo Timonen. "That's one of the top teams in the league, and they showed that to us. We got out-skated by a mile today."

Perhaps having to face all those disappointed yet still loyal fans at yesterday's annual Flyers Wives carnival will remind them who they're playing for. The problem is, even for a team playing well, the schedule is brutal.

After the Red Wings come to town tomorrow, the Flyers head to California, where they face the Ducks, Kings and Sharks, who have lost just 10 home games in regulation combined.

But the recovery — just as the way they bounced back from the 1-7 start that cost Peter Laviolette his job — has to start somewhere. Otherwise, not even a favorable schedule loaded with home games after the break, may save them.

"Right now we don't deserve to be in the playoffs," Scott Hartnell said. "Guys need to be ready to work harder, ready to battle. It seems like we're just going to try to cruise through games and win them and that's losing hockey for sure."

JON MARKS
sports@metro.us

Flyers grounded

"We're in a little bit of a hole here and we have to dig our way out of it. To me, it's not a crisis, but about getting back to doing things proper."

Flyers head coach Craig Berube, on the recent struggles of his team

3 SPORTS

Much Edu about soccer

Union reach deal with star Edu

After continued negotiations, the Philadelphia Union and mid-fielder Maurice Edu, from Stoke City of the English Premier League, have agreed on a contract to bring the 27-year-old soccer star to Philly. The terms are unknown, but it is believed to be worth over $1.2 million.

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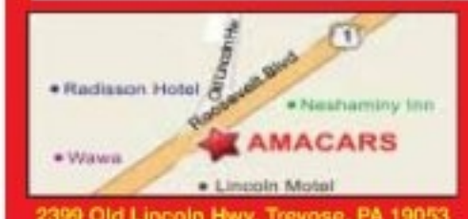

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Sixers expect to have All-Star in New Orleans

NBA. Even with a struggling squad, the Sixers deserve to be represented in the All-Star Game.

When the NBA All-Star weekend takes place in New Orleans next month, many of the best players in the world will be participating.

That coveted list could include Sixers forward Thaddeus Young.

In fact, you can make an argument that the list should include Young.

The longest-tenured player on the Sixers is having a career year, averaging 17.3 points per game. It's not just scoring. Young does so many little things that go unnoticed on a nightly basis.

Those intangibles are certainly noticed by first-year coach Brett Brown.

"I think you would have to," Brown said of considering Young for an All-Star berth. "How about the job he did on Carmelo [Anthony] the other night and what he has done from the 3-point line and what he did on the West Coast trip and how he has strung some really good stretches together?

"He, along with Evan [Turner] and Spencer [Hawes], have carried the youngest team in the history of the NBA, so I say: How can you not?"

The reserves for each conference will be named on Thursday.

ANDY JASNER
sports@metro.us

Sixers head coach Brett Brown says Thaddeus Young deserves an All-Star nod. / GETTY IMAGES

Honor roll

Sixers guard a top NBA rookie

On Feb 14 the annual BBVA Compass Rising Stars Challenge will pit the best rookies up against the best sophomores in a warm-up to the following day's All-Star Game.

Expect the Sixers to be well-represented. First-year guard Michael Carter-Williams will be a lock to make the team, leading all NBA rookies through Friday in (17.6 points per game), assists (6.6), rebounding (5.8) and steals (2.47).

He is a clear front-runner for Rookie of the Year as well. METRO

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Super talk

Young could face uphill battle to make All-Star squad

After a breakout first half of the season, Sixers forward Thaddeus Young has some stiff competition in the Eastern Conference amongst hopefuls for a reserve spot on the All-Star team.

And it doesn't help his cause that the Sixers only have 14 wins, which won't help his cause.

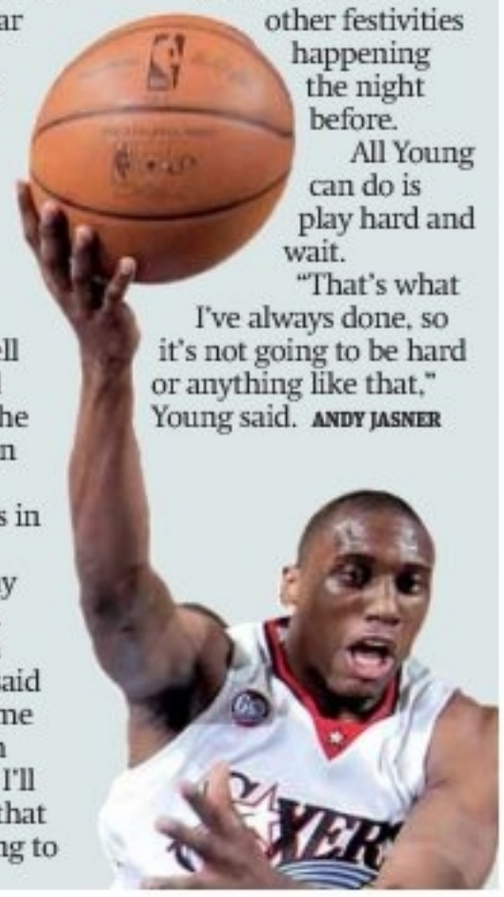
But it's hard to ignore how well Young has played on both ends of the court. He has been one of the most consistent players in the conference.

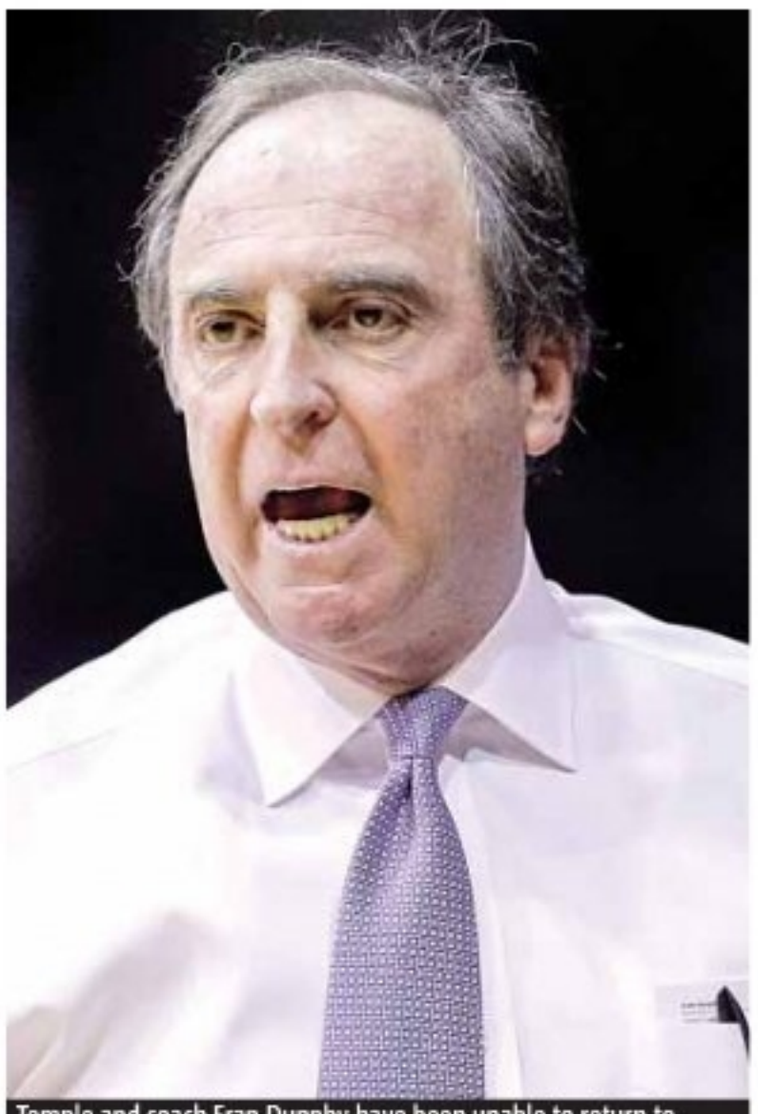
"Truthfully, my whole focus is on helping our team win ballgames," said Young. "If my name comes up and I'm picked, of course I'll be excited. Until that happens, I'm going to keep playing and keep performing like I have. We're just taking each game one at a time and trying to win that game. If I find out I'm selected, I'll be honored and happy. I can't control things that are out of my control."

The All-Star game will take place Feb. 16 in New Orleans, with the Slam Dunk contest and other festivities happening the night before.

All Young can do is play hard and wait.

"That's what I've always done, so it's not going to be hard or anything like that," Young said. ANDY JASNER





Temple and coach Fran Dunphy have been unable to return to winning ways this season. / GETTY IMAGES

Owls remain winless in conference

NCAA. Temple nearly upset No. 15 Cincinnati Sunday, but faltered in last seconds.

The Temple men's basketball team lost its eighth game of the year by six or fewer points. They also dropped to 0-7 in AAC conference play, and 5-13 overall.

This is not what the city of Philadelphia has come to expect from the Owls, who are fresh off five straight NCAA tournament berths.

In any of those five seasons, the Owls would likely have tossed the ball to a clutch shooter trailing 78-76 against No. 15 Cincinnati at home at the Liacorous Center Sunday.

Perhaps Khalif Wyatt would have driven the lane, or Ryan Brooks would have fired off a three.

But instead, a young, untested and certainly unclutch group of recruits struggle to play Fran Dunphy-style basketball.

It seems to be a perfect storm for the Owls to hit the basement of a brand new conference, as they AAC boasts six of the top 15 teams in the nation.

All of whom Temple has, or will face, including their Big Five rival Villanova, currently ranked No. 4.

No longer are the Owls in the safe confines of the A-10, facing Richmond, GW or Rhode Island. Instead they are traveling to UConn, Louisville and Memphis.

Dunphy and company will have to deal with the growing pains, and the lessons learned in a painful 2013-14 could perhaps prove worth it in years to come.

EVAN MACY
evan.macy@metro.us

Awful Owls defense

308

Temple's defense ranks 308th out of 345 Division I basketball programs in points allowed per game with 76.4 per night.

City Six hoops breakdown

The competition continues to heat up in college basketball as the meat of the conference schedule tests local hoops programs.

- **Cincinnati 80, Temple 76** — Dalton Pepper scored a game-high 33 points, including 8-for-14 shooting from downtown, but an Owls late rally couldn't help them catch the No. 15 Bearcats at home Sunday, dropping the squad to 5-13.
- **VCU 97, La Salle 89 (2OT)** — The Explorers fell in a double-overtime thriller Saturday, despite 30 points from Tyrone Garland. La Salle led 73-67 with 1:15 left in regulation but gave up the lead, and 10 minutes later lost the game to fall to 11-8 on the year.
- **Villanova 95, Marquette 85** — Villanova looked like its old self Saturday, though an extra frame was needed to take care of the Eagles in a Big East showdown. James Bell led all scorers with 30 points for the Wildcats, while Darrun Hillard II and Ryan Arcidiacono each had 20 in the offensive outburst for the No. 4 ranked team.
- **Penn 89, NJIT 74** — The Quakers got 23 points from both Tony Hicks and Miles Jackson-Cartwright in the fourth win for Penn Saturday.
- **William & Mary 68, Drexel 66** — The Dragons faltered for the sixth time in their last eight games in a heartbreaking buzzer beater at home Saturday.

EVAN MACY

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Philadelphia's own Tom Gola helped the Warriors to an NBA championship in 1956. / GETTY IMAGES

Local hoops Hall of Famer Gola dies

NBA. The basketball legend died at age 81 Sunday.

Many know his name just from Gola Arena, home court of the La Salle Explorers men's and women's basketball teams.

But the man, a legendary player and coach who revolutionized the game, passed away at St. Joseph's Manor on Hunting Pike Sunday afternoon.

Tom Gola was the star of La Salle's NIT and NCAA championship teams while with the Explorers. He set a NCAA career rebounding record that still stands today.

In the NBA, Gola was a respected defender, and at 6-foot-6, was the first player of his size to play every position on the floor.

He returned to La Salle for two seasons as head coach, leading the team to a 37-13 record during his time there (1968-69).

After basketball, Gola was elected to the Pennsylvania State House from the 170th district and then the city's controller.

EVAN MACY
evan.macy@metro.us

Epic Explorer

Here is a look at just some of the incredible achievements of La Salle's Tom Gola:

- Scored 2,461 career points, 20.9 per game
- Grabbed 2,201 rebounds (NCAA record), 18.7 per game
- Five-time NBA All-Star (Warriors, Knicks)
- Served as Philadelphia city controller (1969)

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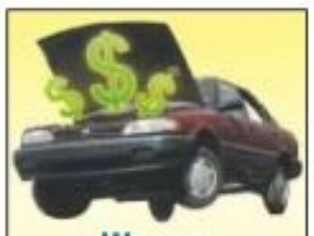

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